Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A projector, comprising:

an illumination device to emit illumination light;

a spatial light modulation device illuminated by the illumination light;

a projection optical system to project image light emitted from the spatial light modulation devices;

a flat and rectangular screen onto which the image light passing through the projection optical system is projected; and

a polarization filter disposed between the spatial light modulation device and the screen, the polarization filter selects a substantially fixed polarization azimuth of a light emitted from the spatial modulation device to make the image light a linearly polarized light, the image light is projected on the screen as the linearly polarized light having the polarization azimuth along a predetermined direction except for a short direction of the screen.

2. (Previously Presented) The projector according to Claim 1, the polarization filter making the image light emitted from the spatial light modulation device incident on the screen so as to serve as linearly polarized light having a polarization azimuth along the longitudinal direction of the screen.

3. (Original) The projector according to Claim 1, the screen being a rear projection screen including a Fresnel lens portion disposed at the incident side thereof and a diffusing screen portion disposed at the exit side thereof.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The projector according to Claim 1, the projection optical system including an L-shaped optical unit to bend a light path, including a pair of lens groups and reflecting device interposed therebetween.

6-9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The projector according to Claim 1, an exit-side optical axis of the projection optical system being orthogonalized to a surface of the screen extending along the central part of the screen.

11. (Previously Presented) The projector according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a color modulation device including spatial light modulation devices for corresponding colors, each device being illuminated with corresponding illumination light emitted from the illumination device; and

a light-separation modulation device which includes a light-synthesizing member to synthesize corresponding kinds of color image light emitted from the color modulation device and which emits the synthesized image light,

the projection optical system projecting the image synthesized with the light-synthesizing member onto the screen.